

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of identifying high value patents in a patent portfolio, comprising:
 - identifying a patent portfolio;
 - 5 - assigning a plurality of parameters to substantially all patents of the patent portfolio;
 - determining an overall quantified value of at least one patent within the patent portfolio based on the assigned parameters;
 - identifying the high value patents according to the overall quantified value.
- 10 2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the parameters are quantified.
3. The method according to claim 2, wherein the quantified parameter is based upon
15 if the patent overcame an opposition, a reexamination or a nullity procedure.
4. The method according to claim 2, wherein the quantified parameter is based upon the patent has been cited in another patent or patent application.
- 20 5. The method according to claim 2, wherein the quantified parameter is based upon the age of the patent.
6. The method according to claim 1, wherein the parameter is assigned to all patents.

7. The method according to claim 1, wherein the patents are ranked according their overall quantified value.

5 8. The method according to claim 7, wherein the high value patents are listed at the top of a ranking.

9. The method according to claim 1, wherein identified high value patents are highlighted.

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10. The method according to claim 9, wherein the highlighting is based upon colors.

11. The method according to claim 9, wherein the highlighting is based upon symbols.

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12. A computer system for identifying high value patents in a patent portfolio, wherein each patent is represented by a data record comprising:

- means to obtain access to internal or external data bases to provide the patent portfolio;
- at least one computer unit with
 - input means;
 - output means;

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- means to assign quantified parameters to at least one data record based upon;
- means to determine an overall quantified value of at least one patent within the patent portfolio based on the quantified parameters;
- means to identify high value patents according to the overall value.

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13. The computer system according to claim 12, wherein the computer system consists of a plurality of computers.

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14. The computer system according to claim 12, wherein the computer system is connected to a plurality of data bases providing patents to be identified.

15. A computer program stored in a computer system or a computer readable medium for identifying high value patents in a patent portfolio, wherein each patent is represented by a data record comprising:

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- quantified parameters;
- bibliographic data; and
- at least one indicator for high value patents.

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16. The computer program according to claim 15, wherein the computer program is implemented in Java.

17. The computer program according to claim 15, wherein the computer program is implemented in a conventional spread sheet program.

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18. The computer program according to claim 15, wherein the data record is implemented in a Markup Language.

19. The computer program according to claim 18, wherein the data record is implemented in the Markup Language XML.

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